

Summer 2013

## *Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter* - Summer 2013

University Libraries--University of South Carolina

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# The Thomas Cooper Society

## NEWSLETTER

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC  
SUMMER 2013



### Society Events Bring Literary World to USC

Dr. Henrietta Mays Smith, Elmore Leonard and Bronwen Dickey were among the many authors who spoke in the Library this spring.

Three literary genres – fiction, storytelling and poetry – were celebrated in grand style at Society-sponsored events this spring.

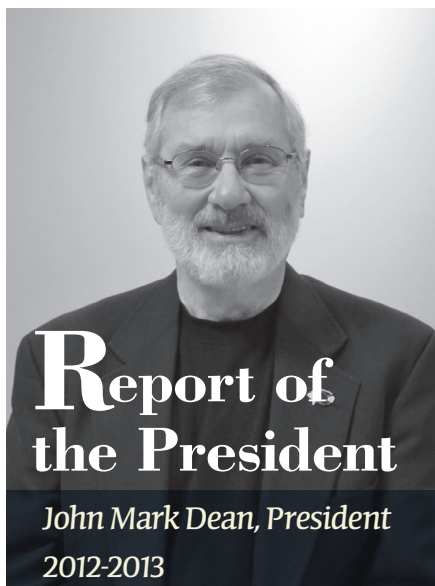
In May, American novelist and screenwriter Elmore Leonard, accompanied by his son, crime novelist Peter Leonard, spoke to a large audience and received the Thomas Cooper Medal; storyteller-scholar Dr. Henrietta Mays Smith gave a public lecture in April; and the publication of *The Complete Poems of James Dickey* was heralded with readings and book signings by English professor Dr. Ward Briggs and author Bronwen Dickey, daughter of James Dickey, in March.

On May 2, Leonard and his son shared their thoughts and anecdotal memories about writing fiction at this year's Thomas Cooper Society Annual Dinner. More than 120 people attended the sold-out event.

"The evening was just the sort of program that the Library does so well," said Lynn Robertson, a long-time Society member and incoming Vice President-President Elect. "Events like this give us a chance to learn about the human side of good writing. Listening to, and talking with, important writers reminds us that they see their creativity as an art and not just a successful business. Even for all of his best sellers, it came through so clearly that Elmore Leonard works at perfecting his craft. I will think of that the next time I read one of his books, or one by any other author."

On April 19, Dr. Henrietta Mays Smith gave a public lecture, "Welcome to My House: A Visit with Augusta Baker." It was the closing lecture for the Irvin Department's Children's Literature Symposium. The Society was a co-sponsor of the event, along with the Columbia Children's Literature Consortium and others. Smith was a protégé of Augusta Baker (1911-1998), a nationally-known advocate for children's literacy and USC's storyteller-in-residence from 1980 to 1994.

*continued on p.5*



It has been a privilege to serve as President of the Thomas Cooper Society during this past year that began with Rudy Mancke's talk, followed shortly by the exhibition and celebration of the announcement of the acquisition of the C. Edgar and Julie Grissom Collection, and ending with the twenty-third annual Society dinner featuring authors

high schools. Our newsletter is being revised, with a focus on events in our summer issue and on collections in our winter issue. We have a new, more dynamic website. We also are exploring the development of a collectors' group.

In addition, the Society has sponsored a number of receptions in coordination with Irvin Department programs. This year the Society appropriated funds for memorial gifts and those items acquired for the Irvin Department were exhibited in the Brittain Gallery. I would like to tell you about one of my favorite initiatives – the Society's partnership with the South Carolina Honors College. Through this initiative developed by Susan Alexander and Steven Lynn, we have added sixteen Honors College faculty mentors as Society members, with those memberships sponsored by the Honors College.

I would like to recognize all of the members of the Thomas Cooper Society Board, and all of the University Libraries' faculty and staff, who work on behalf of the Society. The ideas for new initiatives and the work on these projects is the work of this committed and energetic group. I would like to give special thanks to Ardis Savory, President-Elect and Chair of the Membership Committee, and to Christine Nicol-Morris, the Events Coordinator for the University Libraries and Chair of the Program Committee. – May 2, 2013

Elmore Leonard and Peter Leonard.

This year the Board began a number of new initiatives which grew from the outreach begun by Past Presidents Warren Darby and Warren Irvin. We voted to add an undergraduate and graduate student to the Board. We began an initiative to build awareness of the University Libraries and the Society in area

Read more about the Society and see photos from events and exhibits at <http://library.sc.edu/develop/tcs/>.

## Board Members Welcomed

**Lynn Robertson** has been on the Board for one full and one part term and has been elected Vice President-President Elect. She came to USC in 1978 as Curator of Art for the newly established McKissick Museum. She served as the Museum's Chief Curator and was appointed Director in 1988 and served in that capacity until her retirement in 2011. She also directed and taught in the University's Museum Studies program. She has a master's degree in art history from American University and museum training from the Smithsonian.

**James Henry Baker, III** (Jim) was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from The Johns Hopkins University and received a master's degree from USC. He also completed the South Carolina Bankers School in the USC School of Business. He is a retired vice president of First Citizens Bank of South Carolina and a retired South Carolina state employee. He served in the United States Army and attained the rank of captain, infantry and paratrooper. He is a charter member and elder of Northminster Presbyterian Church.

**Charles Israel** recently retired from Columbia College, where he taught literature and writing for 27 years. He holds degrees from Wofford College, Emory University and USC, and has published widely on contemporary Southern literature. He is a life member of the governing board of the South Carolina Academy of Authors.

**Ginny Newell** is a Charlotte native, a graduate of Davidson College and bench trained as a conservator in America and Europe. She moved to Columbia in 1978 to work for George Walker at the G. Walker Gallery. In 1983, she opened ReNewell, Inc. Fine Art Conservation, which specializes in the conservation of 18th- and 19th-century oil paintings and art on paper. She presently serves on the Board of Directors for the Columbia Museum of Art and the Board of Visitors at Davidson College. She has hiked the Grand Canyon, rafted the Zambezi River and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro.

**Dr. Suzanne Thorpe** (Susie) retired as Research Professor Emerita from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in 2006, after 30 years with USC. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Columbia Museum of Art and on the Advisory Council of McKissick Museum. Her favorite pastimes are traveling and gardening.

Student members **Robert Smith**, graduate student, and **Katelyn Hayworth**, undergraduate, will continue in their roles.







## Learning Opportunities Abound During The Summer

The Library doesn't shut down when summer arrives. For many people, including the five featured here, summer is a time when lots of learning takes place.

Emily Boney and Robert Smith, both USC master's in library science graduates, began cataloging and processing the Graham Arader Collection in June. It is a long-term project that will keep them busy for at least the next year.

"They were looking for people with relevant experience, including those who have fairly new MLIS degrees but don't yet have jobs, since this is expected to be temporary," Boney said.

"We're adding to our skills and knowledge. I'm finding it especially interesting since I'm also a collector of maps," Smith said. There are hundreds of maps in the Arader Collection.

Sara Norman, a student in the master's in library science program working on an internship in the Irvin Department, is charged with a variety of tasks this summer, all aimed at giving her a well-rounded view of librarianship. Her summer duties included cataloging a collection of W. Somerset Maugham books that are part of the Robert W. Books Collection, and helping with the cataloging of the Arader Collection.

The work of John Knox was funded by a memorial donation to the spendable portion of the G. Ross Roy and Lucie C. Roy Scottish Literature Fund.

"I'm working in the Irvin Department again this summer, and I've worked on various projects in the department for a number of years," said Knox, a Ph.D. student in English. "Year-round I work with Dr. Patrick Scott and *Studies in Scottish Literature* (SSL), and this summer I'm digitizing several volumes of that publication: volumes one through twelve, and then volumes thirty-five through thirty-six. We're focused on getting back issues of that publication online and free to the public.

"Working here is a great opportunity, especially for a student coming from the English department," Knox said. "The skills we learn here are not skills we would get through our regular class environment, and it is experience that most of our peers don't get. I'm very appreciative."

The work of another Ph.D. student in English, Michael Weisenburg, was funded from donations to the spendable portion of the Maners Pappas Library Endowment Fund.

"I'm working with the Joel Myerson Collection of Nineteenth-Century American Literature," Weisenburg said. "This summer I'm doing metadata on manuscripts from the collection, which is being digitized. I've worked with Dr. Myerson for several years as his research assistant, so it was a natural fit for me to be involved in the digitization process."

The Maners Pappas Fund is specifically designed to support the digitization of items developed from materials in the Irvin Department.

"I'm a pathologist, and pathology is a very visual field," said Dr. Alex Pappas, a 1971 USC graduate. "I've used visual images, and I've digitized photographs and microphotographs, and I'm very well aware of the mechanisms involved. I'm also a bibliophile: I collect what is known as color plate books – Audubon-Havell prints, antiquarian maps, natural history (flora and fauna). They are books that are produced prior to the advent of modern techniques."

Pappas, along with his wife, Dr. Ann Maners, endowed the fund and wisely donated some additional funds to the spendable portion of the endowment so that the funds could be awarded for current projects.

"Creating funding like this is a way to get great library materials out of the stacks," Pappas said. "When the Library put the F. Scott Fitzgerald Ledger online recently, people emailed me to tell me that the school I went to had done a great thing. I've seen other things the Library has done in the past few years in terms of digitization, and that motivated me to help fund more of that. Hopefully this will show people what can be achieved, and maybe it will be a starter seed for other people to come forward and do the same."

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**Above:** From left, Sara Norman, Michael Weisenburg, Emily Boney, John Knox and Robert Smith admire maps from the Arader Collection.





## The W. Graham Arader Collection Is 'A Transformative Gift'

Some 15,000 natural history watercolors, woodcuts, engravings, lithographs, chromolithographs and maps from the sixteenth to twentieth centuries are on their way to the Irvin Department. The materials are part of an exemplary collection of teaching materials. The University of South Carolina Libraries, the College of Arts and Sciences, and The W. Graham Arader III Galleries are collaborating on this outstanding project.

These works of art are from the collection of Graham Arader, who has devoted more than four decades to building a comprehensive gallery of natural history artwork, including hand-colored engravings of John James Audubon and aquatints, lithographs and engravings by other important ornithological, zoological and botanical artists. The donation is valued at approximately \$30 million.

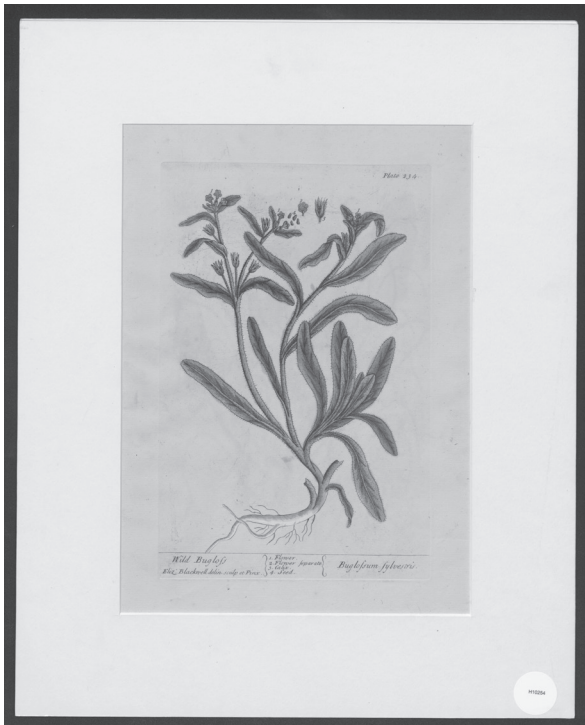
"We are immensely grateful to Graham Arader for donating his exquisite collection of natural history engravings to the University. Mr. Arader believes that when students live and study near great works of art, great learning will take place," USC President Harris Pastides said. "Our appreciation cannot be overstated."

Arader has made it clear that he wants the items he has spent a lifetime acquiring to be used to educate.

"College of Arts and Sciences Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick and I are working together to plan how the items will be integrated into the curriculum," said USC Libraries Dean Tom McNally. "She has been very involved in bringing the collection here and in developing ways to use it for teaching."

The Arader items will be housed in the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections in the Hollings Library. Two full-time catalogers have been hired to process and catalog the collection. Once all the items arrive at USC, they can be ready for regular instructional use in about twelve months.

"We are delighted to work with our colleagues on this initiative because we are committed to fostering undergraduate research," Fitzpatrick said. "Graham Arader's vision will give our students and faculty the unique opportunity of working directly with engravings and lithographs of extraordinary quality. This is a transformative gift."



**Top:** Graham Arader

**Middle:** Hand-colored lithograph from Elizabeth Blackwell's *A Curious Herbal* (London, 1752)

**Bottom:** Hand-colored lithograph from James Logan's *Clans of the Scottish Highlands* (London, 1845)

## Volunteer Uses Rare Talents To Help Preserve Rare Items

After donating a collection of mystery books to the University Libraries this past spring, Ann Cargill expressed an interest in helping the Irvin Department in other ways. That's all Elizabeth Sudduth needed to hear.

"The Irvin Department has benefited greatly from its corps of dedicated volunteers over the course of the past thirteen years," said Sudduth, Department Director. "The group has included undergraduate and graduate students, members of the Thomas Cooper Society, and members of the community at large, with each volunteer contributing their special talents. Their contributions have been significant as they have helped with our routine work and also worked on unique projects related to their talents."

Cargill is an amateur bookbinder and bookmaker, talents that make her uniquely qualified for special tasks in the department.

"Bookbinding is an interest I've had for about 15 years," she said. "I've always liked books and had a friend who was teaching a kids' class in bookmaking. She was teaching them to make pamphlets and it was really fun, just playing with the paper and the covers. I tried to make a book with more than just a few pages and it was a bit wobbly, so I took



Ann Cargill

a class to learn how to stitch them together. I've taken several bookbinding classes now."

The Irvin Department has certainly benefited from her skills.

"What they asked me to do at the Library was right down my alley," she said. "I've done a lot of work with various kinds of paper. I've made some boxes out of archival quality bookboard for books that are fragile, and I've made four-fold folders out of heavy paper for items that can't stand up straight."

Cargill also recently completed the survey of the Libraries' double-elephant folio of John James Audubon's *Birds of America*.

"The survey was developed by a professional conservator and the early work on the condition survey was done by Jessica Dowd and Kathleen McCallister," Sudduth said. "Ann was thrilled to have the opportunity to examine the prints, looking for torn edges and evidence of old repairs. This survey will be useful as the Libraries pursue funding for the conservation of the set."

## Society Events Bring Literary World to USC *continued*

On March 21, the Society sponsored a program and reception to celebrate the publication of *The Complete Poems of James Dickey*, edited by Dr. Ward Briggs, Carolina Distinguished Professor of Classics and Louise Fry Scudder Professor of Humanities Emeritus, and published by USC Press.

Dickey was a poet-in-residence and First Carolina Distinguished Professor of English from 1969 until his death in 1997. His extraordinary and prolific writing career included *Buckdancer's Choice: Poems* (1965), which won the National Book Award, and the novel *Deliverance* (1970), which was made into a motion picture in 1972.

The Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at USC Libraries is home to three named collections related to Dickey, including his personal library of approximately 11,000 volumes. The Irvin Department also holds both the Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection of James Dickey and the Donald J. and Ellen Greiner Collection of James Dickey. These collections developed by Dickey's friends include rare inscribed first and later editions, including variants, review copies, typescripts and a comprehensive collection of periodical appearances.

USC President Harris Pastides began the ceremony by introducing Briggs, who was a long-time friend of the poet. Dickey's three children read from some of their favorite poems. Christopher and Kevin Dickey's readings were pre-recorded as they were unable to attend but Bronwen Dickey gave a live reading of her father's poems from the newly published edition.



**Top:** Elmore Leonard, Peter Leonard and Dr. John Mark Dean  
**Left:** Dr. Henrietta Mays Smith  
**Above:** Dr. Ward Briggs



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## AUGUST

### OPEN GALLERY

Saturday, August 17, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Featuring “Gettysburg: History and Memory”  
and South Caroliniana Library’s “Jak Smyrl”  
exhibits

### ON EXHIBIT:

“Gettysburg: History and Memory”

## SEPTEMBER

### OPEN GALLERY

Saturday, September 28, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Featuring “Gettysburg: History and Memory”  
and “The Blair Collection” exhibits

### ON EXHIBIT:

“Gettysburg: History and Memory” – through  
September 27

“The Blair Collection” – presented by Moving  
Image Research Collections,  
September – October

## OCTOBER

### OPEN GALLERY

Saturday, October 5, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Saturday, October 12, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Featuring “Art in the Library: Original  
Artwork from the Collections of the Irvin  
Department” and “The Blair Collection”  
exhibits

### ON EXHIBIT:

“Art in the Library” – through December  
“The Blair Collection” – through October

## NOVEMBER

### OPEN GALLERY

Saturday, November 9, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Featuring “Art in the Library”

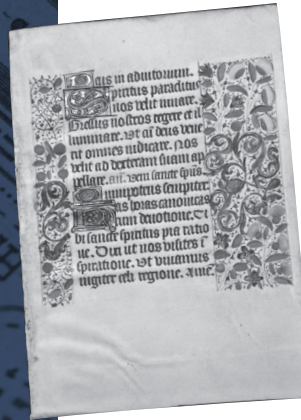
## DECEMBER

### OPEN GALLERY

Saturday, December 14, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Featuring “Art in the Library”

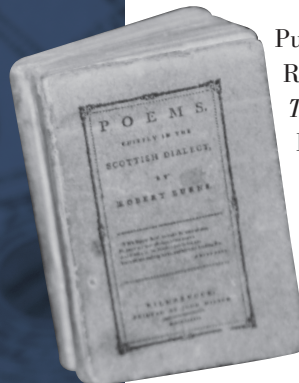
## Society’s Friends Live On Through Memorial Gifts

A number of friends of the University Libraries passed away in 2012 and early 2013. The Thomas Cooper Society Board sponsored a number of memorial gifts to honor the memory of these friends and keep their special interests alive in the Libraries’ collections.



Purchased by the Society in memory of Josephine B. Irvin is the scarce *Emma Darwin: A Century of Family Letters, 1792-1896* (London: J. Murray, 1915), edited by Darwin’s daughter Henrietta Emma Litchfield, and a highly illuminated leaf from a *Book of Hours* (ca. 1450), from northern France.

Purchased by the Society in memory of Dorothy Brown Smith, who enjoyed the romantic verse of 19th-century poet Christina Rossetti, is a beautifully illustrated copy of *Rossetti’s Poems*, with an introduction by Alice Meynell and illustrations by Florence Harrison (London: Blackie & Son, 1910).

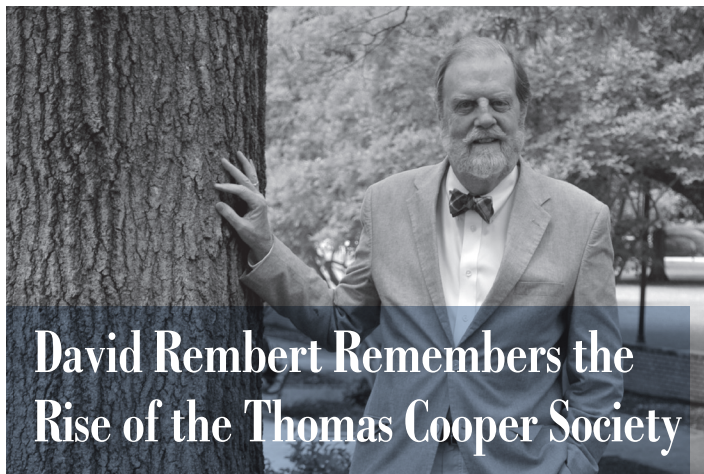


Purchased in memory of founding member G. Ross Roy is Robert Burns’s *The Jolly Beggars; or, Tatterdemallions, A Cantata... by Burns* (Glasgow: Printed by Chapman and Lang, for Stewart and Meikle). Also purchased is *Burns’s Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect* (Glasgow: David Bryce & Son, 1896), a miniature facsimile of the Kilmarnock edition in an ornamental case, with magnifying window.

Purchased in memory of Ernest Hemingway enthusiast Mary Kennemur is a letter dated March 13, 1944, from Scribner’s editor Maxwell Perkins to Marshall Best. In the letter, Perkins discusses the possible addition of a selection of Hemingway’s stories to the Viking Portable Library and suggests that John Peale Bishop would be a suitable editor for such a selection.

The Society also contributed funds to the South Carolina Political Collections’ endowment supporting student workers in memory of Rita Liddy “Peatsy” Hollings, wife of Senator Ernest “Fritz” Hollings, and legislator and attorney Eugene “Nick” Zeigler Jr.





## David Rembert Remembers the Rise of the Thomas Cooper Society

A conversation with Dr. David Rembert about the beginnings of the Society is peppered with talk of the people who helped bring it all together.

Dr. George Terry. Ken Toombs. Davy-Jo Ridge. Art Young. Roger Mortimer. Dr. Patrick Scott.

And, of course, there's Rembert himself, who was a charter member of the Society and its first president. More than 20 years later, he continues his efforts to promote the Libraries.

"The Society held its inaugural meeting in 1991, but its roots formed long before that," said Rembert, an 18th-century plant historian and Distinguished Professor Emeritus within the Department of Biological Sciences.

"In the 1970s, I accompanied Dr. Wade Batson's classes to see the Libraries' Audubons," he said. "Wade was on the biology faculty, too, and a much-loved teacher, and it was part of his instruction philosophy to introduce students to the physical and biological sciences in new and interesting ways. The rare books librarians, Roger Mortimer and later Patrick Scott, often pulled items for me to see and use in my research.

My research specialties include both plant embryology and history of botany, and the Libraries have a wealth of those resources.

"Probably my first venture in finding special items and collections in Columbia was with the Pope family: Ethelind Pope Brown, her sister Nancy Pope Rice, and her brother, Strother Pope. I was visiting Ethelind at her sister's home one day and we were outside feeding some pigeons. We started to talk about birds in general, and she said, out of the blue, that she had some bird prints to show me. We went inside and she proceeded to show me some beautiful prints that I knew to be quite rare. And just like that, we had forged a connection that would someday bring those prints to USC, and we created a relationship with her sister and her brother, who also gave us rare and beautiful items from their own collections.

"About this time, I became associate chair of the biology department," Rembert said. "I knew the biology department didn't have any funds to purchase anything like the Pope prints, so I became interested in finding funding for the Libraries, to help build collections and then to help care for the collections. Then USC Libraries Dean George Terry saw the need, as did several others, and at some point we knew we needed to form an organization that allowed us to collect these items, to take care of them, and then to get the community involved and interested in their use and preservation. We all agreed that the organization should honor former USC President Thomas Cooper, and that's how it was born."

In 1990, Rembert chaired the Bylaws Committee that set up rules for the Society. He recalls personally signing a letter that went out to hundreds of people, explaining the goal of the Society and inviting them to join.

In 1991, USC President John Palms made his first appearance as University President at the inaugural meeting of the Thomas Cooper Society.

## Society Launches High School Initiative

The Thomas Cooper Society Board is reaching out to area high schools to share information about the University Libraries and the Society with high school faculty, students and their parents. This initiative was inspired by Board members Ardis Savory, Maureen Lee and Mikel Smith and their interest in working with this particular community. The initiative builds on the University Libraries' track record of programming for high schools, which has long included making presentations about our physical and digital collections to students in area schools. The Board's Membership Committee is looking forward to exploring new ways of promoting the Society and the benefits of membership.

In Spring 2013, a group from the USC Libraries met with Dreher High School administrators, lead teachers and media specialists to look at new ways to collaborate. The

group consisted of Thomas Cooper Society Board members; Virginia Weathers, Special Assistant to the Director of Thomas Cooper Library; Kate Boyd, Digital Collections Librarian; and Elizabeth Sudduth and Jeffrey Makala, from the Irvin Department. In July, the same group met with the director of the South Carolina Association for Independent Home Schools (SCAIHS) to discuss ways to reach home-schooled high school students from across the state.

The pilot project will involve continuing discussions with Dreher High School and SCAIHS. Ideas being discussed include making presentations to teachers as part of their in-service programming, making information available at events for parents, making presentations to high school classes, and making presentations to school media specialists.



**The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter**  
**Summer 2013**

The Thomas Cooper Society Newsletter is published twice a year by the Society. Send correspondence to the editor at Thomas Cooper Library, Room L203, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, or to [kdowell@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:kdowell@mailbox.sc.edu). Visit [library.sc.edu](http://library.sc.edu).

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In the next issue: Important manuscript additions to the Joel Myerson Collection of Nineteenth-Century American Literature, and highlights from the Irvin Department's 2013 Acquisitions.

## Arader Creates Teaching Collection

Collector Graham Arader has given the USC Libraries a collection of 15,000 items that will be used to educate generations of USC students.

“With my gift to the University of South Carolina, a program in the Libraries will be started to give students the opportunity to view the woodcuts, engravings, aquatints, lithographs and chromolithographs created from the original watercolors and oil paintings,” Arader recently wrote. “Our stock of all forms of this artwork is the largest in the world and it is time for me to give back....In the end, finding and creating a way to excite college students about this spectacular art form will give meaning and purpose to this passion of mine of the last 40 years.”

The items in the collection include:

- Natural history engravings from some of the most prominent naturalists and scientific illustrators of the sixteenth to twentieth centuries, including Maria Sibylla Merian, Daniel Lizars, Frédéric Couvier, John James Audubon, John Gould, Joseph Wolf, John Abbot, Jacob Studer, Mary Lawrance and Elizabeth Blackwell.
- More than 1,400 maps, including eighteenth-century maps, maps from late nineteenth- and twentieth-century atlases of the United States and the world, and railroad maps.
- Historical engravings, including works by Nicholas Visscher, George Frederick Raymond, Giovanni Piranesi, John Trumbull and Andrew Bell.

Read more about the Arader Collection on page 4.

At right, from the collection, chromolithograph, *Bethylus Picatus*, by Jean Theodore Descourcilz (London, 1852-1856).

